

Washington State Credentialing Requirements

First Responder/Emergency Medical Responder (Chapter 18.73 RCW, 246-976 WAC)

Type of Credential:

Certification

DOH Contact:

Customer Service Center - 360-236-4700

Credentialing Requirements	Verification Documents Obtained
Successful completion of Department approved first responder course.	Initial Course Completion Certificate issued by the training program.
Work history (professional training and experience)	<p>No professional work experience required. Applicants are required to be associated with one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An EMS agency licensed by the Department of Health (aid or ambulance service);• A Law Enforcement Agency;• Business with an organized industrial safety team;• Senior EMS Instructors or training coordinators of department approved EMS training programs. <p>Applicants must also be recommended for certification by the Physician Medical Program Director (MPD) of the County in which the applicant will be working.</p>
State licensure verification	Applicant lists all states where credentials are or were held, including where applicant has applied but a credential was not granted. A verification form must be completed and submitted by the jurisdiction where the applicant is or was credentialed. Applicant sends form to jurisdiction for completion. The jurisdiction sends completed form directly to the department.
Statement regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• physical and mental health status• lack of impairment due to chemical dependency/substance abuse• history of loss of license, certification or registration• felony convictions• loss or limitations of privileges• disciplinary actions• professional liability claims history	<p>Applicant must answer personal data questions. An appropriate explanation and required documentation must be sent with positive answers. If there is a positive answer to the professional liability claims history question, the applicant must send an explanation of the nature of the case, data and summary of care given, copies of the original complaint, and the settlement or final disposition. If pending, applicant must indicate status.</p>

Additional Information/Documents Required

- HIV/AIDS training - seven hours.
- Successful completion of the First Responder certification examination including written and practical skills exams. Examination is developed and administered by the National Registry of EMT's (NREMT). Applicant provides proof of successful completion of the NREMT exam.

Process for Approving/Denying Applications

Credentialing staff review the application and supporting documents to make an initial determination on eligibility. The nursing education advisor and licensing manager review and approve applications with questionable verifying documents or otherwise “red flag” applications. Some applications are forwarded to discipline for review and a board member for decision. An applicant will be formally notified of a denial and has the opportunity for a hearing.

Renewal Requirements

First responders must renew their license every three years, coinciding with their supervisory EMS agency licensure month. The licensee must satisfy continuing education requirements for re-certification including knowledge and skills competency.